

# Press Release



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For Immediate Release

Contact: John Wray  
E-mail: [jwray@brtrc.com](mailto:jwray@brtrc.com)  
Office: 586-582-0288; Cell: 248-310-7231  
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## **U.S. Army TARDEC's Dr. Jim Overholt Named First Senior Research Scientist for Robotics**

DETROIT ARSENAL, WARREN, MI – The U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center's (TARDEC) senior robotics leader has been selected to serve as the Center's senior scientist for ground robotics. In this newly-created position, Dr. Jim Overholt assumes the title of Senior Research Scientist in the field of Robotics (SRS-Robotics), effective immediately. TARDEC is the focal point for all Department of Defense ground robotics systems.

Overholt has more than 25 years experience in military robotics and has held numerous lead research positions during that time. In 2006, he was named Director of the then-newly formed Army Joint Center for Robotics (JCR). In addition to those responsibilities, Dr. Overholt has served as Acting Director of the Office of the Secretary of Defense Joint Ground Robotics Enterprise since late 2009.

"I'm honored and humbled to be named to this position," said Overholt. "And I look forward to continuing work with the talented team at TARDEC and throughout the Army and Department of Defense to deliver the best solutions to our Nation's Soldiers."

Overholt, a recognized leader in the field of unmanned systems and artificial intelligence, has been instrumental in efforts to inspire young people to pursue careers in the engineering disciplines. Through his leadership, the JCR has supported the critical mission of outreach in the community through sponsoring and mentoring high school and college student robotics competitions, including the Michigan FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition and the Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition.

Overholt earned a Bachelor's degree in physics from Lawrence Technological University in Southfield, MI, and Master's and Doctorate degrees in systems engineering from Oakland University in Rochester, MI, where he specialized in artificial intelligence methods for unmanned robotic systems.

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## ABOUT TARDEC

Headquartered at the Detroit Arsenal in Warren, MI, TARDEC is the Nation's laboratory for advanced military automotive technology and serves as the Ground Systems Integrator for all DOD manned and unmanned ground vehicle systems. With roots dating back to the World War II era, TARDEC is a full life-cycle, systems engineering support provider-of-first-choice for all DOD ground combat and combat support weapons, equipment and vehicle systems. TARDEC develops and integrates the right technology solutions to improve Current Force effectiveness and provide superior capabilities for Future Force integration. TARDEC's technical, scientific and engineering staff lead cutting-edge research and development in Ground Systems Survivability; Power and Mobility; Intelligent Ground Systems; Force Projection; and Vehicle Electronics and Architecture.

TARDEC is a major research, development and engineering center for the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) and partner in the TACOM LCMC.

For more information about TARDEC, visit us at [www.tardec.army.mil](http://www.tardec.army.mil).  
You can also follow us on Twitter at [http://twitter.com/TARDEC\\_PAO](http://twitter.com/TARDEC_PAO).

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*Note: A photograph of Dr. Overholt is available for use with this release. To download the photo, go to <http://www.tardec.info/pressreleases/>.*